

# *City of Alexandria, Virginia*

---

## **MEMORANDUM**

DATE: APRIL 6, 2011

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: T&ES STAFF

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM # 6 - STAFF UPDATES

---

**ISSUE:** Staff update to Commission on various ongoing projects

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Transportation Commission (Commission) receive the staff update.

**A. COMPLETE STREETS UPDATE:**

At its March 2, 2011 meeting, the Transportation Commission moved to recommend that the City Council adopt the Complete Streets Resolution. The Commission also recommended two revisions to the Resolution, one stating that a biannual report, as opposed to an annual report, listing instances of discretion, will be provided to the Transportation Commission. The second revision was that the resolution will be reviewed for reenactment two years from the date it is adopted. Both revisions were added to the Resolution. Staff will bring the Complete Streets Resolution to the City Council for adoption on April 12, 2011.

**B. BRAC-133 UPDATE:**

- ✓ VDOT has committed to \$80 million in funding for the HOV/Transit Ramp at I-395 and Seminary Road, with a design/build process to expedite construction. This includes use of a categorical Exclusion (CE) for the environmental documentation. VDOT submitted their recommendation for the CE to FHWA on March 14, 2011.
- ✓ DoD and WMATA have agreed in principle to an express shuttle service between the Pentagon and the Mark Center, structured similarly to the DASH arrangement with DoD. The City will serve as a pass-through conduit for the funding.
- ✓ Discussions continue between Alexandria Fire and Fort Belvoir regarding the structure of an arrangement where Fort Belvoir would contribute to capital and operational costs for fire and EMS services, off-setting service impacts from the BRAC facility.
- ✓ Staff presented a recommendation to the Traffic & Parking Board on March 28 that would create a new daytime parking district in response to anticipated neighborhood parking encroachment issues resulting from the BRAC-133 facility. The Board adopted the recommendation, and the next step is for staff to move forward with drafting the

necessary code amendments and present to the Council in May.

- ✓ Beginning in April, staff will be conducting traffic counts at several locations throughout the West End neighborhoods to document existing volumes and speed as a part of the effort to determine the need and locations for traffic calming measures in anticipation of potential cut-through traffic from the workers at the BRAC-133 facility.
- ✓ The letter of agreement for modification of the Transportation Management Plan TMP as executed by the City, has Department of Defense (DoD) signature, and is awaiting final Washington Headquarters Service (WHS) signature.
  - ✓ The cooperative agreement for providing enhanced transit between the Mark Center and King Street Metro Station using DASH for is awaiting final DoD signature. The four surplus DASH buses have been sent for rehabilitation, with service anticipated to commence August 8, 2011

### C. **PARKING UPDATE**

At the March 8, 2011 City Council Legislative Meeting, staff presented recommendations to Council regarding the City's policy on parking for persons with disabilities. Staff recommended that the City continue to follow the current policy of using the State Code of Virginia to regulate parking for persons with disabilities. The State Code allows up to four hours of free parking in metered parking spaces for vehicles displaying license plates or placards issued to persons with disabilities. Furthermore, staff recommended the exploration of a permit program for persons with disabilities who are employed within the City and do not have available accessible off-street parking at their place of employment. With verification of these requirements, permit holders would be permitted to park in a metered space for up to 12 hours. This permit program would be implemented for a two-year pilot period. Council voted to approve both of these recommendations, and the permit program is being developed by staff.

On March 28, 2011, staff presented a Neighborhood Parking Plan for BRAC-Impacted Neighborhoods to the Traffic & Parking Board. Staff recommended the creation of a Daytime Parking District to best achieve the goals of discouraging BRAC commuter parking and developing a plan that has minimal impact on residents. Similar to the existing Overnight Parking District, the Daytime Parking District would require that all vehicles parked on the public right-of-way display a valid City Decal, which shows proof of the vehicle's registration in the City. Vehicles without a valid City Decal would be required to display a permit, which would be acquired via a resident within the District. Staff also recommends the issuance of a single transferable permit to be issued to each residence. The parking restrictions, where activated, would be in effect Monday through Friday between 8:00am and 5:00pm. Once the District is established, residents may activate the parking restrictions by block face through submission of a petition showing majority support of the restrictions. The Traffic & Parking Board unanimously approved the Daytime Parking District as the BRAC Neighborhood Parking Plan. Code modifications for establishment of the program will be presented to City Council for adoption in May.